

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02  
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DLOS-09 /111 W

-----127515 291632Z /43

O R 291609Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9450  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION NATO  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN  
USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T BONN 10859

GENEVA FOR SEABED DEL - SLOSS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW  
SUBJECT: MBFR: THE FRG STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH

REF: NATO 06108 DTG 271759Z JUN 77

1. AT A SOCIAL OCCASION ON JUNE 29, WE ASKED RUTH FOR A CLARIFICATION AS TO HOW THE FRG ENVISAGED THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH AND HOW LONG A DELAY MIGHT BE INVOLVED BEFORE FIGURES ON "OTHER PERSONNEL" WERE TABLED BY THE WEST.

2. RUTH SAID HE WAS HOPEFUL THE PROCESS WOULD PROCEED RATHER QUICKLY, AND THAT IT WAS NOT THE FRG INTENTION TO  
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DELAY IT. FOLLOWING THE TABLING OF DATA ON MAJOR UNITS, RUTH CONTINUED, THE WEST WOULD HAVE TO EXAMINE THE FIGURES AND PERHAPS ASK A FEW QUESTIONS OF THE EAST. HOWEVER, THE TABLING OF DATA ON "OTHER PERSONNEL" COULD HAPPEN RELATIVELY SOON AFTER THIS.

3. WE ALSO CONFIRMED THE INFORMATION REPORTED

REFTEL THAT THE FRG WOULD NOT INSIST UPON A TABLING OF DIVISIONAL DATA. THEREFORE, THERE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY HAVE TO BE AN INTERMEDIATE STEP BETWEEN PRESENTING DATA ON MAJOR UNITS AND DATA ON "OTHER PERSONNEL". NEVERTHELESS, RUTH STATED, HE THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT FROM A TACTICAL STANDPOINT TO OFFER TO TABLE DIVISIONAL DATA, EVEN IF THE EASTERN REACTION WERE NEGATIVE. SHOULD THE EAST LATER REQUEST SOMETHING UNEXPECTED FROM US, WE COULD ALWAYS RESPOND THAT WE HAD OFFERED DIVISIONAL DATA AND HAD NOT RECEIVED A FORTHCOMING RESPONSE.

4. COMMENT: THE COMPROMISE FRG DATA DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL APPEARS TO US TO BE ABOUT AS FAR AS THE GERMANS CAN GO UNDER CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES. BY INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL AS A COLLECTIVE FIGURE, THE FRG WILL BE ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF PUBLICLY, IF NECESSARY, AGAINST THE CHARGE THAT DE FACTO NATIONAL FIGURES HAVE BEEN TABLED AND THAT MBFR HAS BECOME A NEGOTIATION ABOUT THE BUNDESWEHR. WE SUSPECT THERE IS LITTLE, IF ANY, POSSIBILITY THAT THE GERMANS WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE THAT FINAL STEP TOWARDS TABLING OF NATIONAL SUB-TOTALS AT THIS TIME. MOREOVER, RUTH WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE RECEPTION ACCORDED THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL AT BRUSSELS AND WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE SPC COULD AGREE UPON GUIDANCE WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. END COMMENT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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